

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/001257

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl.⁷ A61N1/32, 1/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl.⁷ A61N1/32, 1/04

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1922-1996 | Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho | 1996-2005 |
| Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1971-2005 | Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho | 1994-2005 |

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| X Y | JP 2000-60977 A (YAMAN Ltd.), 29 February, 2000 (29.02.00), Claim 1; Par. Nos. [0015], [0019] (Family: none) | 1, 3, 15, 16 2 |
| Y | JP 9-66112 A (YAMAN Ltd.), 11 March, 1997 (11.03.97), Par. No. [0008] (Family: none) | 2 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
14 April, 2005 (14.04.05)

Date of mailing of the international search report
10 May, 2005 (10.05.05)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

An "electrode for treatment" or "treatment device" described in claims 1, 3, 15, and 16 is well-known as is described in below mentioned "JP 2000-60977 A" and does not make any contribution over the prior art. Therefore, claims 1, 3, 15, and 16 have no special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence.

As a consequence, there is no matter common to the following inventions: the invention of claim 2 referring back to claim 1, the inventions of claims 6-9 referring back to claim 1, the inventions of claim 10 and 11 referring back to claim 1, the inventions of claim 12 and 13 referring back to claim 1,
(continued to extra sheet)

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Claims 1-3, 15, and 16

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box No. III of continuation of first sheet (2)

the invention of claim 4 referring back to claim 3, the invention of claim 5 referring back to claim 3, the invention of claim 17 referring back to claim 15, the invention of claim 18 referring back to claim 15, the invention of claim 19 referring back to claim 15, and the invention of claim 20 referring back to claim 15.

Further, there is no other common matter that can be considered as a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, and therefore no technical relationship within the meaning of PCT Rule 13 between the different inventions can be seen.

As a consequent, it is apparent that claims 1-20 do not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention.

Claim 2 relates to an "electrode for treatment" characterized in that "treatment current supplying means stops supplying a pulse current at a predetermined cycle."

Claim 4 relates to an "electrode for treatment" characterized in that "the length of an electrically-conductive-pad connection section is adjustably constructed."

Claim 5 relates to an "electrode for treatment" characterized in that "an electrically-conductive-pad connection section is flexible."

Claims 6-9 relate to an "electrode for treatment" characterized by "further having impedance measurement means for supplying a measuring current to that predetermined portion of the body at which an electrically conductive pad is made to be in contact and measuring the impedance of this body portion."

Claims 10 and 11 relate to an "electrode for treatment" characterized by "further having pad close-contact means for making an electrically conductive pad in close contact with the body."

Claims 12 and 13 relate to an "electrode for treatment" characterized by "further having kinds of electrically conductive pads having shapes individually corresponding to treatment object portions of the body."

Claim 14 relates to an "electrode for treatment" characterized by "further having heart rate detection means for detecting a heart rate through the electrically conductive pad made to be in contact with a body portion."

Claim 17 relates to a "treatment device" characterized by "further having pulse supply selection means for switchably selecting, out of three or more electrically conductive pads or three or more electrodes for treatment, a set of electrically conductive pads or of electrodes for treatment used for the supply of a pulse current."

Claim 18 relate to a "treatment device" characterized in that "pulse supply selection means controls the timing of switching such that after the supply of a pulse current by a selected set of electrically conductive pads or of electrodes for treatment is completed, the supply of a pulse current by the next set of electrically conductive pads or of electrodes for treatment is made in sequence."